



# *APD NEWS*

Public Information Office: (512) 974-5017

715 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St. Austin, Texas 78701

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 23, 2010**

**Contact:** Public Information Office, 974-5017

### **Detectives seek assistance in purse snatching robbery**

**Case #:** 10-0642046

**Date:** Wednesday, March 5, 2010

**Time:** 8:30 p.m.

**Location:** 3909 N. IH 35, Fiesta

#### **Narrative:**

Austin Police Detectives are seeking the public's assistance in identifying involved in a purse snatching turned robbery.

On Wednesday, March 5, 2010, an Austin police officer responded to a robbery at the Fiesta parking lot where a suspect ran up to a female victim and grabbed her purse causing her to fall to the ground and injure her head. The suspect was a passenger in a vehicle.

The suspect is described as:

Dark complexioned male

Mid to late 20s

Stocky build

Possibly has braided hair

He was last seen wearing a black baseball cap with a straight bill, black jacket over a white t-shirt. There is no description of the driver. The vehicle in this case is described as maroon colored 2-door.

This case may be related to the earlier cases where women have had their purses stolen out of shopping carts while they loaded their groceries into their vehicles. All of the cases have occurred in grocery store parking lots in different parts of Austin.



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This is the first case in which a victim was injured. She was treated and released at an area hospital.

To minimize the chances of becoming a victim of this type of crime, the Austin Police Department suggests the following:

Be aware of your surroundings before you unload your groceries. If you see someone following you, go back into the store and call 911.

Once at your car, put your purse in the car before your groceries.

If your purse is snatched, do not try to grab for the purse. Also be sure to call 911 immediately and then notify your financial institutions.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Robbery Unit at 512-974-5092, Crimestoppers at 512-472-TIPS or text TIP103 to CRIMES (274637).

**Media Advisory:** Photos suspect vehicle are attached.

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